

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-02

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R 201750Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1426

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2539

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, SW

SUBJ: PALME-ARAFAT MEETINGS IN ALGIERS

REF: STOCKHOLM 5109 AND 5164

1. FOR THE RECORD I AM REASONABLY CERTAIN PALME DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW ARAFAT WAS COMING TO DINNER UNTIL MINUTES BEFORE THE LATTER APPEARED IN THE HALL ON NOVEMBER 12. THERE WAS GREAT UNCERTAINTY HERE AS TO ARAFAT'S TRAVEL PLANS, WHICH WERE VERY CLOSELY HELD WITHIN GOA. INTENSIVE EFFORTS ON OUR PART ON 12TH TO ASCERTAIN THOSE PLANS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL AND WE DOUBT ALGERIANS WERE ANY MORE FORTHCOMING WITH SWEDES THAN THEY WERE WITH US, GIVEN THEIR APPARENT CONCERN ABOUT LEAKS. WE THINK PALME WAS SURPRISED AND HAD NO ALTERNATIVE (UNLESS HE WISHED TO INSULT ALGERIAN HOSTS) BUT TO MAKE THE BEST OF AN AWKWARD SITUATION.

2. I ASSUME THERE WAS SOME SORT OF CONVERSATION

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BETWEEN PALME AND ARAFAT BEFORE OR AFTER DINNER, BUT

DURING MEAL ITSELF, WHICH I ATTENDED, THEY WERE
SEPARATED AND AT NO TIME DID I SEE THEM IN CONVERSATION.
THEY COULD NOT HAVE TALKED FOR LONG IN ANY EVENT.
IMMEDIATELY AFTER DINNER ARAFAT WENT OFF WITH HIS OWN
BEVY OF SECURITY GUARDS TO AN UNANNOUNCED DESTINATION
WHILE PALME AND HIS DELEGATION WENT ELSEWHERE. ORAN
PAPER SAYS THEY HAD PRIVATE MEETING, BUT AM INCLINED
TO DOUBT IT.

3. WILL TRY TO GET FURTHER DETAILS FROM EDELSTAM
WHO HAS BEEN VERY FRIENDLY, AND WILL REPORT.
PARKER

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NNN

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